

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

60,130-1909; 03MRA0457

REMARKS

Applicant has amended this application in response to the office action. The claims stand rejected under 35 USC §112, second paragraph. Applicant has amended the claims somewhat, and submits the claims are now patentable. Applicant's prior independent claim 28, as an example, was a claim generic to the Figure 4 or Figure 5 embodiment. Perhaps this led to some confusion for the examiner. However, the claim has been amended to be specific to the Figure 4 embodiment. Dependent claim 29 adds in the Figure 5 embodiment features. It is believed the 35 USC §112 rejection is thus overcome. Further, the amendments to the specification as set forth in the office action are complete.

Paragraph [21] has been amended to add the period as instructed by the examiner. The numeral 10 is a reference numeral for the drawings and identifies the housing. It is not associated with any units. The amendment previously filed amended paragraph 23, and removed the reference to "24a." Thus, it is submitted the drawings are proper.

This leaves the rejection of the claims over McKinven. McKinven does not disclose a seal for use in a yoke as required by claim 28, and Figure 7 does not disclose a slinger end which extends outwardly beyond the slinger extension as required by independent claims 25 and 31. The claims would require the element identified by numeral 100 in Figure 7 to then extend outwardly radially beyond the element identified by now numeral 91.

Dependent claim 29 would require a similar, but somewhat mirrored, seal be found at an opposed end of an axle. Again, McKinven does not have this structure. Dependent claim 31 would require that the element 100 merge into another section bending back outwardly into the left of Figure 7, and then merging into a slinger end which would extend radially outwardly and to the right in Figure 7. Simply, McKinven cannot meet the claims.

Allowance of all claims is in order.

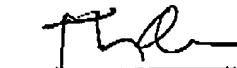
BEST AVAILABLE COPY

60,130-1909; 03MRA0457

Applicant believes that no additional fees are necessary, however, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-1482 in the name of Carlson, Gaskey & Olds for any additional fees or credit the account for any overpayment.

Respectfully Submitted,

CARLSON, GASKEY & OLDS, P.C.

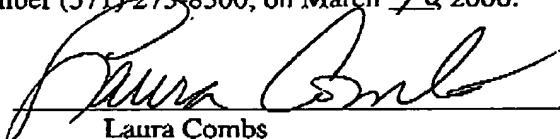


Theodore W. Olds, Reg. No. 33,080
400 West Maple Road, Suite 350
Birmingham, Michigan 48009
(248) 988-8360

Dated: March 9, 2006

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States patent and Trademark Office, fax number (571) 273-8300, on March 10 2006.


Laura Combs